

NEWS RELEASE

Judd Gregg

United States Senator for New Hampshire
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CLAREMONT DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION EFFORT RECEIVES \$500,000 BOOST FROM SENATE APPROPRIATIONS PANEL

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH) today announced that he has included \$500,000 in federal funding for Claremont's initiative to revitalize the Monadnock Mills and surrounding area in the Fiscal Year 2004 Senate Appropriations measure that provides funding for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee which passed the measure yesterday, Senator Gregg was able to include the funding which will help preserve one of the most intact mills left in the nation and create a tremendous economic resource for the community. The measure is now ready for consideration from the full Senate, expected later this fall. Senator Gregg was able to secure \$100,000 through last year's measure for Claremont's Downtown Revitalization effort.

Senator Gregg stated, "Claremont proudly claims a rich history closely tied to its textile mills and the Sugar River. However, the restoration or protection of a building that pre-dates the Civil War is often times more expensive than constructing a new building. The partnership the City has created to not only preserve and restore the mills, but to turn them into a potential cornerstone of economic development, has done an outstanding job recognizing the unique potential of the mill complex. The educational and technological resources that would be available to the surrounding community would serve as a great asset, and the history tied to the mills would draw people from far beyond the City's borders."

Guy Santagate, Claremont City Manager, stated, "This appropriation from Senator Gregg represents a major accomplishment in funding our new historic mill district redevelopment program. This \$500,000 grant will help solidify developer's commitments to mill projects currently being proposed. Senator Gregg's appropriation will be used in part to finance the recommendations of the Mill Master Plan that is scheduled to be completed this fall. The citizens of Claremont are grateful for his confidence in Claremont's future and look forward to his continued support on this major historic preservation effort and other economic development initiatives."

Mark Aldrich, Director of Economic Development in Claremont, stated, "Senator Gregg is working hard to help Claremont with a number of community development initiatives – not the least of which is the revitalization of the Monadnock Mills. This funding will support Claremont's efforts to make major public infrastructure improvements to the mill district. Senator Gregg deserves substantial credit and heartfelt thanks from the City of Claremont for his ongoing efforts on behalf of Claremont's economic development and historic preservation."

For more information, contact Guy Santagate at (603) 542-7002.

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